

REMARKS

After the foregoing Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-11, 13-18, 25, 26, 28-31, 33-36, 38, 39, 43 and 45-54 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 25, 30, 35 and 43 have been amended and new claims 49-54 have been added to incorporate subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner into independent claim form, and to more distinctly claim subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. Claims 3, 8, 12, 19-24, 27, 32, 37, 40-42 and 44 have been canceled without prejudice. Paragraph [0055] of the specification has been amended to correct a typographical error. The Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by the Amendment.

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 3-5, 8-10, 12, 13, 27-29, 32-34, 37 and 44-48 include allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 3. Thus, the Applicants submit that claim 1, and dependent claims 2, 4 and 5, are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 8. Thus, the Applicants submit that claim 6, and dependent claims 7, 9 and 10, are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 12. Thus, the Applicants submit that claim 11, and dependent claims 13-15, are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 16 has also been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 8. Thus, the Applicants submit that claim 16, and dependent claims 17 and 18, are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 25 has also been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 27. Thus, the Applicants submit that claim 25, and dependent claims 26, 28 and 29, are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 30 has also been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 32. Thus, the Applicants submit that claim 30, and dependent claims 31, 33 and 34, are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 35 has also been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 37. Thus, the Applicants submit that claim 35, and dependent claims 36, 38 and 39, are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claim 43 has also been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 44. Thus, the Applicants submit that claim 43, and dependent claims 45-48, are allowable over the prior art of record.

New claims 49-54 also include subject matter which the Examiner indicated as being allowable.

Conclusion

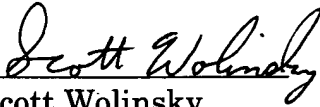
If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

Applicant: Pietraski et al.
Application No.: 10/725,779

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-11, 13-18, 25, 26, 28-31, 33-36, 38, 39, 43 and 45-54, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Pietraski et al.

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